

# House of Representatives,

[COPY]

Washington, D. C. July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1889.

Honorable Daniel M. Fox, Superintendent Mint,  
Philadelphia, Pa.,

My Dear Sir:- Mr. John R. Rowand of Kirkwood, New Jersey, one of my constituents, represents to me that under your advertisement for bids to furnish charcoal for the Philadelphia Mint he has put in a bid for same and that it was lower than that of any other person. By your advertisement you called for charcoal without specification of kind but furnished subsequently a specification of kinds of charcoal wanted. In his bid he, of course, complied with your request in stating what each grade of charcoal would be furnished at and that his bid proved on inspection to be lowest in grades of oak, granulated and pulverized charcoal and the same as the bid of Mr. Garty in the pine charcoal to wit: 12 cents per bushel. That under this form you have seen fit to separate the one article of charcoal according to its kind and favor Mr. Garty enough to give him the contract for the pine charcoal when he was no lower than Mr. Rowand on same and only give Mr. Rowand the contract for the other kinds of charcoal.

I respectfully called your attention to this matter because it does seem to me that there must be some mistake that such an unfair advantage would not certainly be given against Mr. Rowand or any other person who has fairly put in his bid for a single article.

Mr. Rowand states that he commenced furnishing the Mint with charcoal

# House of Representatives,

Washington, D. C., -----, 188 .

something like ten years ago and has furnished it ever since with the exception of two years, last year and the year '86 and that in the year '86 Mr. Gardy failed on his contract and that Mr. Rowand completed it without embarrassment to the Mint; and that even last year there were complaints against the coal furnished by Mr. Gardy.

He also states that the action you have taken is particularly hard because the real profit in the contract or most of it comes from furnishing the pine charcoal. When these things are considered it does seem that you cannot wittingly intend this seeming injustice.

Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant,

C. A. Bergen.

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

Office,

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<sup>110</sup> 334	Aug 1884	JR Rowand	18 $\frac{1}{4}$ Bushel
378	" 1885	"	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ " "
312	" 1886	HH Gandy	Oak 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
326	" 1887	"	" 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
354	" "	"	Pine 15 "
26	" 1888	"	Oak 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
16	" 1889	"	Pine 15 "
57	" "	"	Oak 13 "
		JR Rowand	Pine 13 "
			Oak 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
			Pine 12 "
			Oak 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

House of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.,  
July 23, 1889

(COPY)

Honorable Daniel M. Fox, Superintendent Mint,  
Philadelphia, Pa.,

My Dear Sir: -

Mr. John R. Rowand of Kirkwood, New Jersey, one of my constituents, represents to me that under your advertisement for bids to furnish charcoal for the Philadelphia Mint he has put in a bid for same and that it was lower than that of any other person. By your advertisement you called for charcoal without specification of kind but furnished subsequently a specification of kinds of charcoal wanted. In his bid he, of course, complied with your request in stating what each grade of charcoal would be furnished at and that his bid proved on inspection to be lowest in grades of oak, granulated and pulverized charcoal and the same as the bid of Mr. Garty in the pine charcoal to wit: 12 cents per bushel. That under this form you have seen fit to separate the one article of charcoal according to its kind and favor Mr. Garty enough to give him the contract for the pine charcoal when he was no lower than Mr. Rowand on same and only give Mr. Rowand the contract for the other kinds of charcoal.

I respectfully call your attention to this matter because it does seem to me that there must be some mistake that such an unfair advantage would not certainly be given against Mr. Rowand or any other person who has fairly put his bid for single article.

Mr. Rowand states that he commenced furnishing the Mint with charcoal something like ten years ago and has furnished it ever since with the exception of two years, last year and the year '86 and that in the year '86 Mr. Garty failed on his contract and that Mr. Rowand completed it without embarrassment to the Mint; and that even last year there were complaints against the coal furnished by Mr. Garty.

He also states that the action you have taken is particularly hard because the real profit in the contract or most of it comes from furnishing the pine charcoal. When these things are considered it does seem that you cannot wittingly intend this seeming injustice.

Respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
C.A. Bergen.

[Enclosed note:]

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

No. 334,	Aug. 1884	J.R. Rowand	18 cents Bushel
378,	" 1885	"	16 ¾ cents "
312,	" 1886	H.H. Gardy	Oak 15 cents "
326,	" 1887	"	" 14 ½ " Pine 15 "
354,	" "	"	Oak 14 ½ " Pine 15 "
26,	" 1888	"	Oak 13 " Pine 13 "
26,	" 1889	"	Oak 12 ½ " Pine 12 " Oak 12 ½ "
57,	" "	J.R. Rowand	